(b) by when these Projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) (a) The section from Santragachi to Bargachia (24 kms) was opened to traffic in the year 1984 The work remained frozen after 1984 due to constraint of resources and low operational priority and was again taken up in 1995-96 Work is now in progress between Munshirhat and Bargachia (8 kms)

(b) By 2001-02

Dairy Industry

710 DR T SUBBARAMI REDDY Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state

(a) whether India enjoyed several competitive advantages in the dairy industry as compared to the other countries but has failed to make a proper place in the export market;

(b) whether dairy sector has not been included in the liberalisation policy.

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the measures being taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) The dairy sector in India is closely integrated to agriculture and milk production is generally based on utilisation of agricultural by-products and crop residues The cost of milk production in India, is therefore lower than in many developed countries However due to seasonal and regional variations in milk production and increasing domestic demand, there is not much of liquid milk left to be converted into milk products for export A beginning has, however been made

(b) The dairy sector was included in the liberalisation policy of the Government of India announced in July, 1991

(c) and (d) Do not arise

Statutory Development Board for Konkan

711 SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has urged the Union Government to establish separate statutory Development Board for Konkan, and

(b) if so, reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Some discussions on the issue were held between the former Union Home Minister and the Chief Minister of Maharashtra Keeping in view the legal and constitutional complexities involved in the issue, it would not be possible to lay-down a definite time frame to finalise it.

[Translation]

Passenger Facilities

712 SHRI SUK DEO PASWAN Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether there is lack of passenger amenities at the railway stations situated in Areria constituency and

(b) if so the measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) (a) and (b) Provision augmentation of passenger amenities at railway stations is a continuous process and the same is done whenever so warranted by traffic requirements Facilities commensurate with the volume of traffic have been provided as per norms at all the railway stations

Railways however, maintain such statistical data Railway station-wise and not State/District/Constituency-wise.

[English]

Railway Electrification Project

713 SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Railway Electrification Project is saving only about one million tonne of Diesel Fuel (i e HSD) out of a total oil consumption of 61 million tonnes in the country, i e only about 1 6%

(b) if so, the total investment on Electrification and the financial savings accrued as a result thereof; and

(c) whether freight market share of Railway is only 35% as against Government policy of 70% and if so the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) (a) The estimated saving of Diesel Fuel (i e HSD) during the year 1994-95, due to the movement of 402801 8 million GTKM traffic on electric traction is 1 31 million tonne which is 4 63% of the total High Speed Diesel consumption of 28 26 million tonnes in the country Similarly during the year 1993-94 saving of Diesel Fuel (i e HSD) has been estimated as 1 23 million tonnes The increase in the saving works to 6 5%

(b) Total investment on Electrification upto 31 3 95 is Rs 2663.52 crore approximately Though financial savings due to Electrification have not been specifically assessed, the saving on Diesel Fuel (i e HSD) alone works to 1.31 million tonne for the year 1994-95